



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY: QUESTION 397 FOR WRITTEN REPLY

A draft reply to the above-mentioned question asked by Mr W P Doman (DA); is attached for your consideration.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (Acting)

DATE: 4/3/10


DRAFT REPLY APPROVED/AMENDED


MS B P SONJICA, MP
MINISTER OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 2010. 03. 09

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO 397

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 26 FEBRUARY 2010
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 4)

397. Mr W P Doman (DA) to ask the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs:

- (a) How much of the R611 billion allocation for the delivery of free basic water by municipalities for the 2009-10 financial year has been spent as at the latest specified date for which information is available, (b) what was the five biggest projects on which the money was spent and (c) what are the reasons that some of the money still remain unspent?

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REPLY:

- (a) The Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) Programme which has a budget of R616.8 million for the 2009/10 financial is not intended to provide funding to Municipalities for the delivery of free basic services.

The Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (RBIG) is an "indirect" support programme to Water Services Authorities (WSA's) which was established in 2007 and is managed by My Department. This grant mechanism was established to supplement the financing for the development of regional bulk water infrastructure and regional bulk sanitation collection as well as regional Water Treatment Works and regional Waste Water Treatment Works. Due to its unique character, bulk infrastructure mostly serves both social and economic users and therefore requires co-funding from both user groups. This Grant (fund) primarily serves the social component of the bulk infrastructure, but most schemes will also require co-funding for the economic component (higher levels of services, business and industry), which could be sourced through loans, cost-recovery and other mechanisms. Although this fund is dedicated for the social component it should be recognised that it may not be able to address all such funding needs due to the limited available funding.

As of the 25 February 2010 a total of R 473.3 million of the R 616.8 million allocated for the 2009/10 financial year to the Regional Bulk Infrastructure programme has been spend.

- (b) This is a multi year programme, the implementation of many of the projects such as the five biggest projects listed below will be implemented over more than one financial year. The five biggest projects that the RBIG allocated funds to during 2009/2010 financial year are:
- Olifantspoort Water Treatment Works, estimated project cost is R303.5 million. The project is in the Capricorn District Municipality within the Lepelle Nkumpi Local Municipality. The villages which are to benefit from the project include: Tswaing, Lehlokwaneng, Nkotokwane, Matinkane, Lesetsi, Mashite, Seleting, Tjiane, Lekurung, Bolopa, Standplaas, Lenting, Morotse and Mamoolo. The scope of the project includes the upgrading and extension of the existing Olifantspoort WTW from 30 to 60Ml/day.

- Sterkfontein Bulk Water Project, estimated project cost R211.7 million.

The Sterkfontein dam Bulk Water project will provide bulk water to settlements in various areas of Maluti A Phofung Local Municipality. The municipality falls within the Thabo Mofutsanyana district which is located in the eastern part of the Free State province. The project is divided into two phases. The phase one covers the construction of a 3Ml/d water treatment works at the Sterkfontein Dam, a 3Ml/d reservoir and a 6.8km 400mm diameter UPVC pipeline. Phase two of the project will cover the construction of three reservoirs, a 46km water supply pipeline and related works from the Sterkfontein Dam scheme to the areas of Qwaqwa, Bluegumbush and Uniqwa.

- Greater Mbizana Bulk Water Supply Scheme, estimated project cost R830.0 million.

The current phase of Greater Mbizana Regional Bulk Water Supply project is the upgrading of the Nomlacu Water Treatment Works (NWTW). The project focuses on Greater Mbizana area, which is part of the Mbizana Local Municipality, located in the OR Tambo District Municipality in the Eastern Cape, and incorporates the town of Bizana.

- Nebo Bulk Water Supply Scheme, estimated project cost R254.6 million.

The project is divided into two phases. Phase 1A is on the construction of a 33Km 450 mm diameter steel pipeline and two pump stations from the Steelpoort River to Jane Furse. Phase 2 is about the construction of 8,5 Km of pipeline, Water Treatment Works and Reservoir.

- Magalakwena Bulk Water Supply Scheme, estimated project cost R800.1 million.

The project aims to deliver water to Mokopane town and villages to the immediate north of Mokopane Town. The project comprises of the construction of bulk pump lines and the rehabilitation of boreholes and pump station. The project serves as a bulk conveyance infrastructure that would ultimately carry water for both domestic and mines from Flag Boshielo Dam augmentation scheme to the residential areas in the Mogalakwena Municipality area (Urban and Rural areas).

The table below illustrates a short description of each of the projects

Province	Scheme	District Municipality	Local Municipality	Description	R x 1000			key drivers of projects
					total project cost	total RBIG-allocaion	RBIG 2009/10	
Limpopo	Olifantspoort WTW	Capricorn	Lepelle Nkumpi/ Polokwane	Water treatment works	303,527	258,527	98,371	basic water, economic development, 2010,
Free State	Sterkfontein Dam Scheme	Thabo Mofutsanyane	Maluti-a-Phofung	Water treatment works	211,695	193,695	34,950	basic water, eradication of bucket
Eastern Cape	Mbizana Regional Bulk WS	O.R.Tambo	Mbizana	Various bulk water supply components	830,000	234,095	34,500	basic water, eradication of bucket
Limpopo	Nebo BWS	Greater Sekhukhune	Greater Tubatse/ Makhuduthamaga	Various bulk water supply components	254,571	218,934	28,000	basic water, eradication of bucket
Limpopo	Mogalakwena BWS	Waterberg	Mogalakwena	Various bulk water supply components	800,100	155,500	26,800	basic water, economic development

- (c) This is a multi year programme and expenditure takes place up to the last day of the financial year. Based on our current cash flow projection the budget allocation for the 2009/10 financial year will be expended by the 31 March 2010.